

Filed for intro on 04/28/97

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 217  
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Dr. Semella Junior Spence to serve on the Registry of Election Finance.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-10-203(a), provides for the creation of an independent entity of state government to be known as the Tennessee Registry of Election Finance; and

WHEREAS, Governor Don Sundquist has appointed Dr. Semella Junior Spence of Nashville, Tennessee to serve a term on the Registry of Election Finance as the nominee of the Tennessee Democratic Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence spent her formative years in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She attended Spellman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, She earned her Master of Arts degree at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she was one of the first African Americans accepted for matriculation. She earned her Ph.D. at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence has enjoyed an extensive career in education and public service; and

**\*71634747\***

71634747

**\*006058\***

\*00605838\*

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence was employed as a Principal in the Nashville School System for 27 years. She served at Martin Luther King Magnet High School for 10 years; and at East High School, Cumberland Junior High School, Litten High School, and Jolten Junior High; and

WHEREAS, widely respected and admired by her peers and associates in the field of education, Dr. Spence has always possessed the unique ability to seize the heart of an issue quickly; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence has managed both people and policy justly and with keenness of thought, never wavering in the face of adversity to do what is right. Her involvement in the desegregation of Litten High School is a perfect example of the unflagging commitment to the greater good with which she has performed her duties; and

WHEREAS, a wise woman who realizes that citizenship entails many responsibilities as well as privileges, Dr. Spence has participated in numerous civic organizations, including the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, of which she is a past president; Leadership Nashville, chaired several educational committees; Board of Directors of 100 Black Women; and the International Board of Directors for Magnet Schools; and

WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career, Dr. Spence has given unselfishly of her time and talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable public servant, Dr. Spence has been listed in *Who's Who in American Education*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence evinces her faith in the Lord through her membership at First Baptist, Capitol Hill, where she serves as Director of Music; and

WHEREAS, She enjoys the love and support she receives from her wonderful husband, Dr. Dolphus Spence and her children, E.J. Junior, Keith Elliot Junior, August Junior, and Delphias Spence Addeku; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spence is a woman of integrity, and an active citizen who has always sought to serve the common good; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-10-203(a), provides that each member appointed to the Registry of Election Finance shall be confirmed by joint resolution of the general assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this body does hereby confirm the appointment of Dr. Semella Junior Spence of Nashville, Tennessee, to serve a term on the Registry of Election Finance set to expire on January 1, 2002.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.